



THE 11th ECONOMIC CORRIDORS FORUM

THAILAND 2020

Boosting Competitiveness, Connectivity, and Community in the GMS Economic Corridors
through Focused and Integrated Spatial Development

Session 4:

Further Strengthening Multilateralism and Free Trade among GMS Countries

Part I:

Closer Cooperation under CHINA-ASEAN FTA

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1 | Closer Cooperation under CAFTA

1 Rapid Development of FTAs Globally

2 Implementation of China FTA Strategy

3 Progress on CHINA-ASEAN FTA

4 Proposals for Closer Cooperation under Regional FTAs 4

2 | Rapid Development of FTAs Globally

- Numbers Increasing
- Scope of Arrangements Broadening
- Level of Liberalization Being Raised

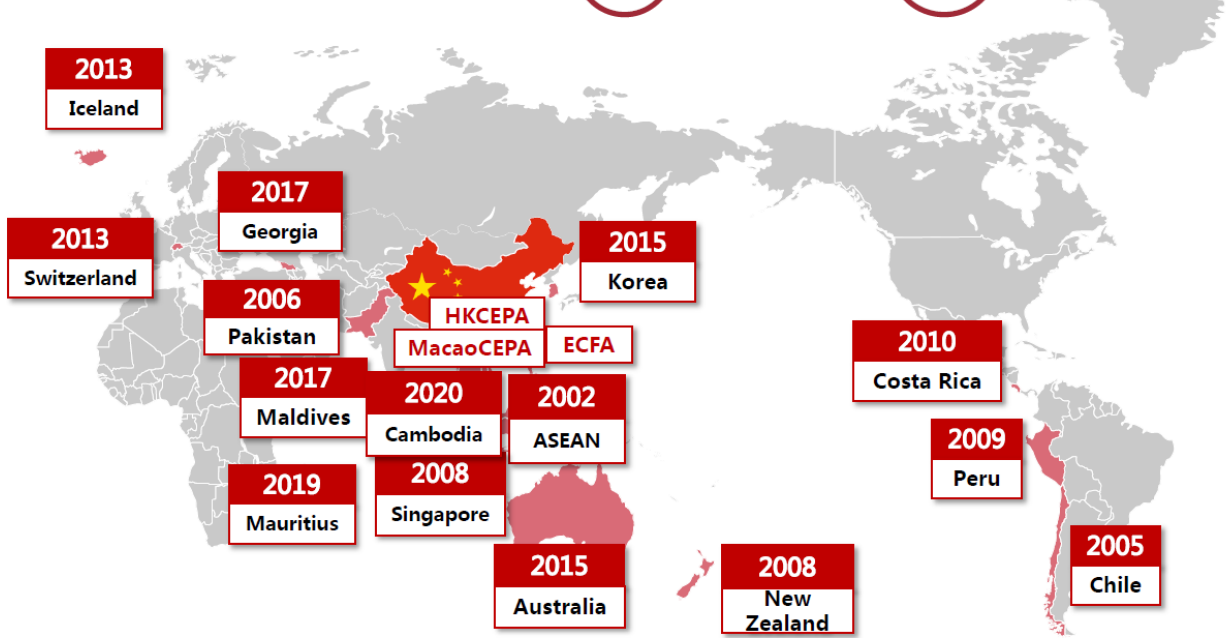
Facilitate
Investment

Liberalize
trade

Spur
Economic
Growth

3 | Implementation of China FTA Strategy

18 FTAs 25 Partners



4 | Progress on CHINA-ASEAN FTA - Significance

China's first and largest FTA with developing countries.

Covering China and 10 ASEAN Member States, with a population of 2 billion and areas of 14 million square kilometers.

Boosts bilateral economic cooperation, accelerates regional economic integration, contributes to a closer CHINA-ASEAN Community with a Shared Future.

4 | Progress on CHINA-ASEAN FTA - Achievements

- ✓ **Bilateral trade has expanded rapidly.**
 - Each other's largest trading partner.
 - Trade volume increases against downward trend by Covid-19.
- ✓ **Two-way investment has flourished and become more balanced.**
- ✓ **Trade in services has expanded.**
 - People to people exchanges are closer than ever.
 - Tourism and transportation take predominant share.



5 | Proposals for Closer Cooperation under Regional FTAs

Internal Requirement

GMS countries are at the critical stage of economic structuring and development mode transformation.

External Environment

- Trade protectionism and unilateralism are on the rise, multilateral trading system and international trade and economic order are facing headwinds, and the downside risk to the world economy is increasing.
- Covid-19 pandemic continues to spread, posing severe challenges to the stability of global and regional supply chains.



5 | Proposals for Closer Cooperation under Regional FTAs

1


- Strengthen cooperation under regional FTAs.
- Take full advantage of ACFTA + Early signature of RCEP.

2

- Conduct capacity building programs to improve member states' abilities to negotiate and implement FTAs.

3

- Consider to provide mechanism guarantee for regional FTA cooperation.



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Thank you!